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0222480.6 27 September 2002 (27.09.2002) GB(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): RI-
CARDO UK LIMITED [GB/GB]; Bridge Works,
Shoreham-by-Sea, West Sussex BN43 5PG (GB).

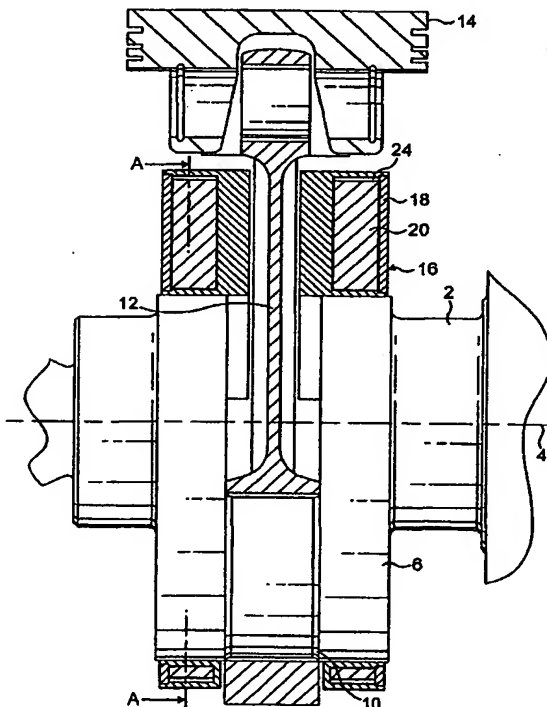
(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): STOTT, Michael,

Robert [GB/GB]; 25 Fairview Road, North Lancing,
West Sussex BN15 0PA (GB). KNIGHT, Brian, Russell
[GB/GB]; 224 Harbour Way, Shoreham-by-Sea, West
Sussex BN43 5HZ (GB).(74) Agent: JENNINGS, Nigel, Robin; Kilburn & Strode, 20
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(54) Title: TORSIONALLY DAMPED ROTARY SHAFTS



(57) Abstract: A rotary shaft, such as an automotive crankshaft, for rotation about an axis carries an eccentric substantially circular section, radially extending flap (6), connected to the radially outer surface of which is an annular housing (16) affording a cavity defined in part by radially inner and radially outer coaxial cylindrical surfaces. The axis (22) of the cavity is offset from the axis (4) of the shaft. The cavity accommodates an annular inertia mass (20) and the radially inner and outer surfaces of the cavity are opposed to radially inner and outer surfaces, respectively, of the inertia mass whereby there are two pairs of opposed surfaces. One of the said pairs constitutes bearing surfaces guiding relative motion of the inertia mass and the housing (16) about the axis (22) of the coaxial cylindrical surfaces. The other of the said pairs is spaced apart to define an annular space accommodating a displaceable material, such as a grease, the inertia mass and the cavity having a dimension in the radial direction which has a maximum value at a first position opposite to the direction of eccentricity and decreases progressively in both circumferential directions to a second position offset by 180° from the first position.

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ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO,
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
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According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

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Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
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A	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 0070, no. 24 (M-189), 29 January 1983 (1983-01-29) & JP 57 177441 A (MITSUBISHI JIDOSHA KOGYO KK), 1 November 1982 (1982-11-01) abstract	1
A	FR 534 405 A (M. RENE-AUGUSTE BERLAND) 25 March 1922 (1922-03-25) figures	1
A	DE 78 15 703 U (DR. ING. H.C. F. PORSCHE) 7 September 1978 (1978-09-07) figures	7
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Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Pöhl, A

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